

Higher Education Appropriations Conference Summary



Overview

The Florida Legislature proposed a Higher Education budget totaling \$6.8 billion which is a \$309 million (4.3 percent) decrease from the 2010-11 fiscal year. This includes a \$219.7 million (6.34 percent) decrease in General Revenue funds, a \$82.2 million (11.13 percent) increase from the Educational Enhancement Trust Fund and a decrease of \$171.5 million (5.9 percent) in other trust fund budget authority over the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation. The budget also includes an 8 percent base tuition increase authority for Workforce, Florida's College and State Universities. The proposed budget includes funding for 1,302.75 authorized positions which is 56.25 fewer positions than the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Key Issues

- Reduces funding for State Universities by 5.7 percent and State Colleges by 1.3 percent from the 2010-2011 fiscal year.
- The budget reduces 55 positions in the Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Injured Worker Program to align with the Department of Financial Services transfer of Workers Compensation Administrative Trust Fund dollars. It also reduces 1 position from VR's Data Center consolidation and .25 positions from Blind Services Data Center consolidation.
- Increases lottery funds by \$27.2 million (7.3 percent) for Student Financial Aid (total state funds increase of \$3.3 million).
- The budget reduces Bright Futures funding by \$87.3 million (20 percent).
- Need-based Student Financial Aid is increased by \$0.05 million (0.04 percent).
- Prohibits co-enrollment of adult education students, which reduces General Revenue by \$11.1 million.
- Authorizes an 8 percent tuition increase at Florida Colleges, which generates an additional \$67.7 million in revenue.
- Authorizes an 8 percent tuition increase, 7 percent tuition differential fee, and other tuition adjustments at State Universities which generate a total of \$111.3 million in revenue.

Breakdown

Vocational Rehabilitation

- \$195.2 million budget, which is a decrease of \$25.2 million (11.43 percent) under the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation.

Blind Services

- \$52.7 million budget, which is a decrease of \$4.96 million (8.6 percent) under the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation.

Private Colleges & Universities

- \$106.9 million budget, which is a decrease of \$7.1 million (6.26 percent) under the 2010-2011 fiscal year appropriation.

Student Financial Aid

- \$509.7 million budget, which is an overall increase of \$88.5 million (15.1 percent) over the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation.

Workforce Education

- \$534.2 million budget, including tuition revenue, which is an overall decrease of \$8.6 million (1.6 percent) under the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation.

Florida College System

- \$1.9 billion budget, including tuition revenue, which is an overall decrease of \$24.7 million (1.3 percent) under the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation.

State University System

- \$3.5 billion budget, which is an overall decrease of \$206.2 million (5.7 percent) under the 2010-2011 fiscal year appropriation. This includes tuition revenue budget authority of \$111.3 million.

Board of Governors

- \$5.7 million budget, which is a decrease of \$500,789 (8 percent) under the 2010-11 fiscal year appropriation.